

DC

KAMANDI

NO. 3
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WELCOME TO BURIED LAS VEGAS!
ONCE A PLAYGROUND FOR MEN-- NOW, A
SINISTER HUNTING GROUND FOR GORILLAS!

20¢

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

KAMANDI

THE LAST BOY ON EARTH!



COMPLETE IN THIS ISSUE!
"The **THING**
THAT GREW ON
THE MOON!"

In 1894,
a boy had to learn
to act like a man.

Daisy's 1894[™] B-B Gun teaches the same lessons.

Back then, a kid had to grow up fast. He was expected to learn marksmanship and gun safety at an early age.

Today, you can learn the same lessons with the Daisy 1894 B-B Gun, a "Spittin' Image"[™] of the frontiersman's carbine.

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Learn the lessons of the old West with the Daisy 1894! Or choose from over 30 other models of Daisy B-B spring-air, CO₂, and pellet guns.

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The kit includes: Trap frame to catch B-Bs / Targetex rubber backstop / Daisy Air Rifle Manual / Full set of NRA 15-foot match targets / Full set of "Pop-Out Bullseye Targets" / (See the Bullseye "Pop-Out" when you hit it!)

TAKE THIS COUPON WHEN YOU BUY.
Good at all participating stores.

Daisy[®]
SINCE 1886

Rogers, Arkansas 72756, Div. Victor Comptometer Corp.
In Canada: Daisy/Heddon, Ltd., Preston, Ontario.



DON'T EXPECT THE EXPECTED IN THIS SAGA-!!!

THE WORLD THAT YOU KNOW WILL HAVE CHANGED!! IT'S A WORLD THAT HAS PASSED THROUGH A NATURAL CATASTROPHE OF CYCLOPEAN DIMENSIONS! IT'S EARTH A.D. (AFTER DISASTER!) OUR YOUNG HERO, LAST SURVIVOR OF NORMAL REASONING HUMANITY, HAS BEEN DRIVEN FROM HIS BUNKER INTO THIS INCREDIBLE NEW WORLD--- WHERE MAN IS THE BEAST--- AND THE BEAST IS MASTER!! NOW, READ ON! ---FOR HERE, WONDERS NEVER CEASE! BEGIN WITH---

CHAPTER ONE... OF...

THE THING THAT GREW ON THE MOON!!

SHOW
YOURSELF,
LITTLE DOGIE!
I KNOW
YOU'RE
THERE!

I'VE
WANDERED
INTO A
TRAP! MY
ONLY CHANCE
IS TO
COME OUT
SHOOTING--!

EDITED-WRITTEN-DRAWN
by JACK KIRBY-
INKED IN TWENTIETH CENTURY
"WHITTIER" BY
MIKE ROYER

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IN WHAT WAS ONCE THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE WESTERN ROUND-UP STILL GOES ON... BUT THE SQUALLING, SHRIEKING HERO CONSISTS OF CORNERED HUMANS!... UNFORTUNATELY, OUR YOUTHFUL HERO HAS FALLEN PREY TO THEIR CAPTORS---GORILLAS!!

GOTCHA, LITTLE DOGIE!

GOOD ROPING, TRAKKA! WE SPOTTED HIM SKULKING AROUND CAMP! HE'S PROBABLY A LONER! THEY NEVER TRAVEL WITH THE HERO!

LET ME GO! IF I GET MY HANDS FREE, I'LL BLAST YOU OUT OF THOSE ROCKS!

A BEAST OF BURDEN!... AND HE'S GOT A GUN--!

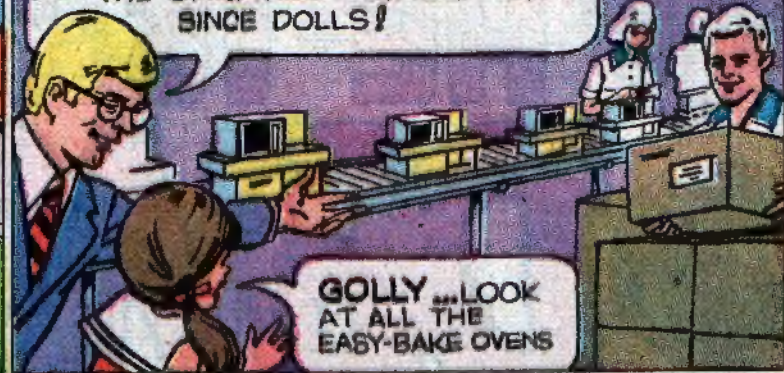
BAM!



SALLY VISITS THE EASY-BAKE OVEN TOY FACTORY



...AND THIS IS WHERE KENNER MAKES
THE **GREATEST GIRL'S TOY**
SINCE DOLLS!

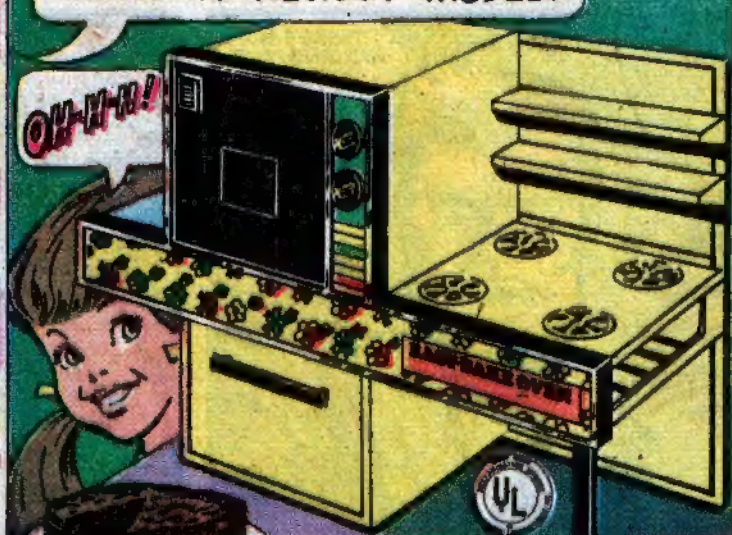


GOLLY ...LOOK
AT ALL THE
EASY-BAKE OVENS

MORE THAN **5** MILLION
LITTLE GIRLS LIKE YOU
BAKED THEIR FIRST CAKE
IN AN EASY-BAKE OVEN!



LOOK AT THE **NEWEST MODEL!**



OH-YEAH!

CONTEMPORARY
STYLING

BIG BLACK GLASS
WATCH-IT-BAKE
WINDOW APPEARS
WHEN OVEN IS ON...



TIMING
GUIDE DIAL



ALL KINDS OF
REALISTIC FEATURES

COMES WITH "JUST-ADD-
WATER" MIXES TO MAKE
CHOCOLATE CAKE... WHITE
CAKE... CHOCOLATE FLAVOR
FROSTING.

...AND YOU CAN GET
ADDITIONAL MIXES TO
MAKE ALL KINDS
OF GOODIES!



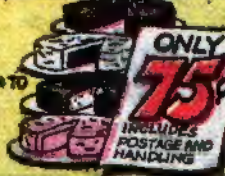
EASY-BAKE OVEN

Kenner EASY-BAKE
OVEN BAKES WITH
TWO ORDINARY LIGHT
BULBS (NOT INCLUDED).
SET INCLUDES - OVEN,
MIXES, BAKERY PANS
AND COOK BOOK!

EASY-BAKE MIX BONUS!

**6-MIX
ASSORTMENT**

SEND NAME, ADDRESS, ZIP 76¢ TO
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OFFER EXPIRES MARCH 1, 1973



BIG NEWS FROM DC



**WORLD'S GREATEST
SUPER-HEROES**



**BY
POPULAR
DEMAND!**



BLACKHAWK

**The ATOM and
DOLL MAN**

WONDER WOMAN

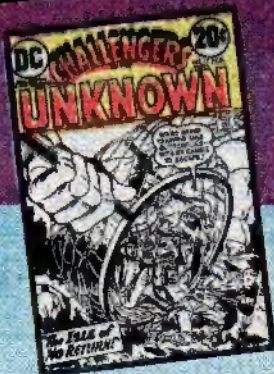
WILDCAT

BATMAN

ROBIN

**ON
SALE
DEC. 26th**

**By
Popular
Demand
!!**



**On
Sale
in
December**

DON'T HARM HIM--!
HE'S **VALUABLE!** SOMEONE'S
TRAINED HIM TO THINK,
SPEAK--AND WHO KNOWS
WHAT **ELSE?**

HE'S A **PRIZE**
CATCH, ALL RIGHT!
BUT WHAT'LL WE
DO WITH HIM?



WE'LL **SELL** HIM, YOU IDIOT!
HE'LL FETCH A BETTER
PRICE THAN THAT **ENTIRE**
WILD HERD WE JUST
ROUNDED UP!

WHAT'RE WE
WAITIN' FOR? LET'S
RIDE BACK TO TOWN
AND CASH HIM IN!
YAHOOO!



YOU WON'T **SELL**
ME LIKE A TRAINED
ANIMAL! I'M
MORE THAN
YOUR EQUAL!

LISTEN TO IT TALK! I'VE
NEVER HEARD ANYTHING
LIKE IT! BY THE TIME WE
GET TO TOWN, HE'LL WANT
CITIZENSHIP!

HE'S A **FIND**, ALL RIGHT!
IF WE USE OUR HEADS,
HE'LL MAKE A FORTUNE
FOR US!

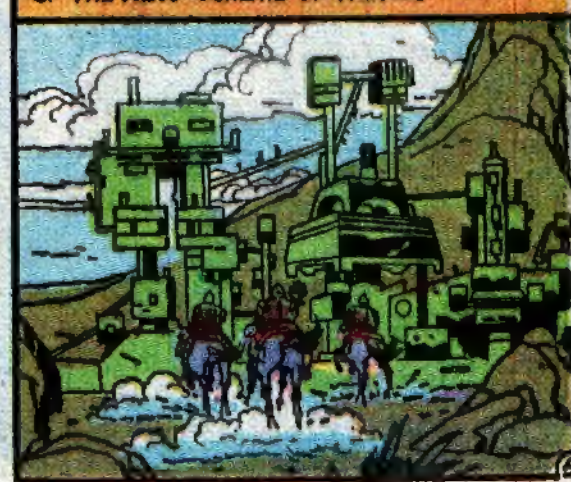


BOUND AND HELPLESS, THE CAPTIVE BOY
STRUGGLES TO FREE HIMSELF, AS HE IS
CARRIED OFF TO AN OMINOUSLY
UNCERTAIN FUTURE!!

LET ME GO, I TELL
YOU! LET ME GO!



THEN, THE TOWN COMES INTO VIEW!--A TOWN
CONSTRUCTED BY, AND BUILT FOR GORKLAS!
IN THE ERA OF EARTH A.D., THIS IS A SYMBOL
OF THE NEW SCHEME OF THINGS!



"APE TOWN, U.S.A." THE PHRASE RUNS THROUGH KAMANDI'S MIND AS HE'S CARRIED THROUGH THE BUSTLING GORILLA COMMUNITY!

SNAP TO IT,
YOU LAZY
BEASTS!
PULL! PULL!

OUR YOUNG HERO REALIZES MORE THAN EVER THAT THE WORLD HE WAS TAUGHT TO SEE, EXISTS ONLY AS AN IMAGE IN A MICRO-FILM LIBRARY--- IT BELONGS TO THE PAST! HERE--- NOW--- HUMANITY HAS LOST SUPREMACY! ---AND MUST LEARN ONCE MORE TO REGAIN IT--!!

KAMANDI

THE LAST BOY ON EARTH!

CHAPTER
TWO

BLASTED
TRAFFIC!
IT'S THICK
WITH
"TRANSIT-
ROPE!"

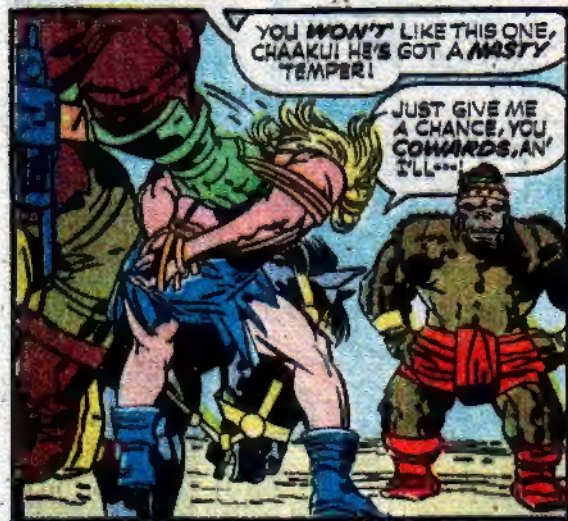
THIS IS AN
INCREDIBLE PLACE!
---A GIGANTIC
ZOO!---WITH A
CAGE RESERVED
FOR ME!



OH-OH! OUR LUCK'S
RUNNING OUT!
IT'S CHAAKU!
THE MIGHTY!

YOU'RE BLOCKING OUR
WAY!...IS THIS A
CHALLENGE?

IT'S THE *RIGHT* OF OUR
KIND! I'M IN NEED OF A
SLAVE! THAT ONE WILL
DO! I'LL *FIGHT*
YOU FOR HIM!



YOU *WON'T* LIKE THIS ONE,
CHAAKU! HE'S GOT A *NASTY*
TEMPER!

JUST GIVE ME
A CHANCE, YOU
COWARDS, AN'
I'LL...



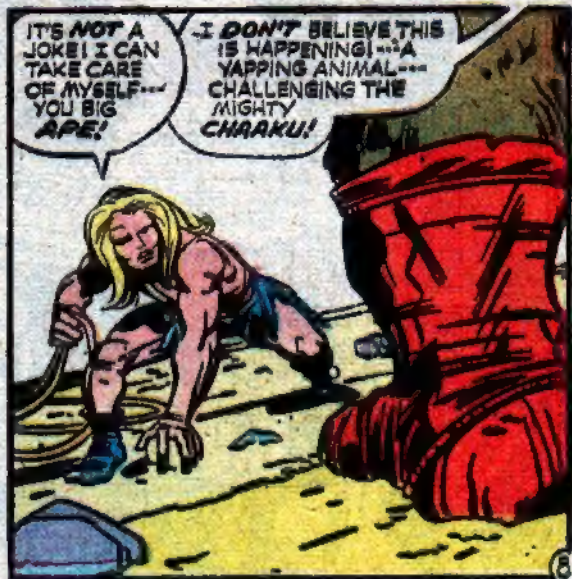
HE *SPEAKS*!...AS
WELL AS WE DO! HE'S
A *RARE* ONE, INDEED!
I *CLAIM* HIM!
I'LL *FIGHT* ALL OF
YOU FOR HIM!

HE SEEMS ANXIOUS
TO FIGHT FOR
HIMSELF! GIVE
HIM HIS CHANCE!



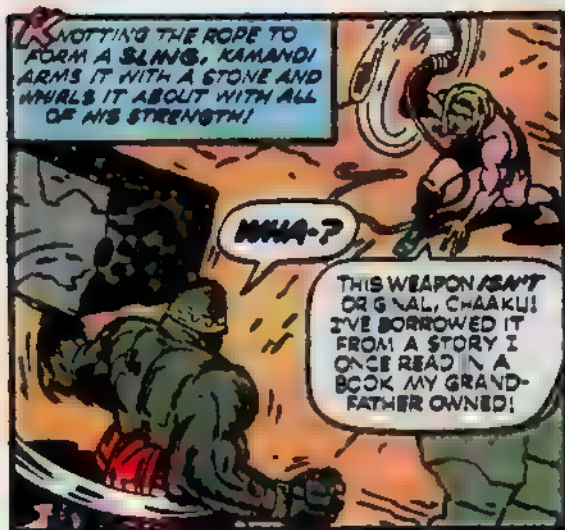
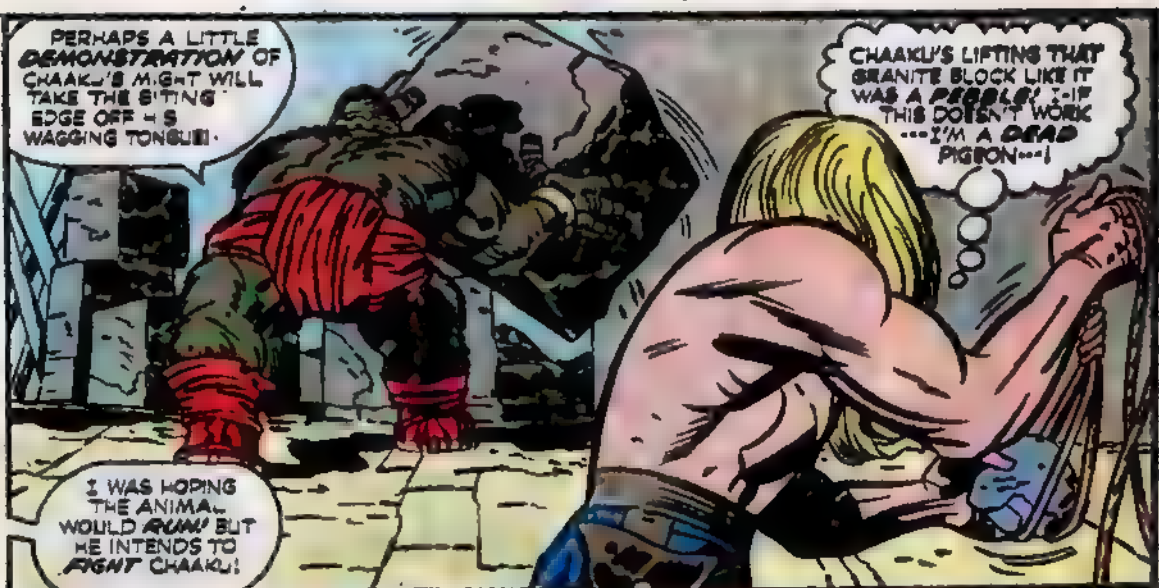
YOU ASKED
FOR THIS,
LITTLE DORE!
NOW, BACK
UP YOUR
TALK WITH
ACTION!

IS THIS
YOUR IDEA
OF A
JOKE?

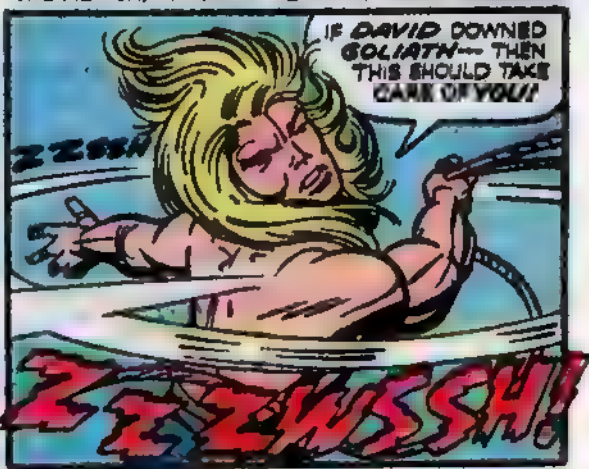


IT'S *NOT* A
JOKE! I CAN
TAKE CARE
OF MYSELF...
YOU BIG
APE!

I *DON'T* BELIEVE THIS
IS HAPPENING!...A
YAPPING ANIMAL...
CHALLENGING THE
MIGHTY
CHAAKU!



AS CHAAKU STARES ALMOST MESMERIZED BY THE ACTION, KAMANDI LETS FLY WITH HIS MISSILE!



Never finished high school?

Now you can get a diploma without going back

You already know why it's important to have a high school education. You've probably learned the hard way that it can be pretty difficult to get the kind of job you want without one. No matter how hard you're willing to work.

What can you do about it?

Maybe you've thought of trying again to get a diploma. But you've suffered enough classroom "battle fatigue" to last you a lifetime. So you'd hate to travel that route again even if you could.

But what if we told you that there was now a much better way to get a high school education? An adult way, which gives you regular high school subjects and your choice of practical vocational subjects which help you get started in one of a number of profitable fields.

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school before. Wayne's specially prepared lessons make even difficult subjects much easier to take. And Wayne grades your assignments in private, by mail. You're free from competitive classroom pressures. You stay relaxed, and your progress is much smoother.

If you're 17 or over and not now in school, send the coupon below to receive — by mail — Wayne's free booklet "How to finish High School at home." Wayne will also be glad to ask its local representative to contact you and answer any other questions you may have about finishing high school at home. No obligation.

Send for free facts

Wayne School

A leader in home study

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Chicago, Illinois 60605

Please send me your free illustrated booklet "How to finish High School at home" containing full information about your courses and teaching methods, and about opportunities for high school graduates.

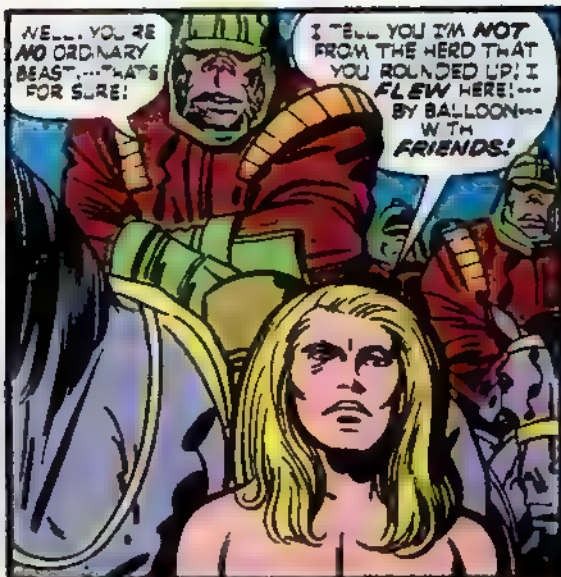
Print Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Wayne School
wants to help you finish
high school at home



WELL, YOU'RE
NO ORDINARY
BEAST!...THAT'S
FOR SURE!

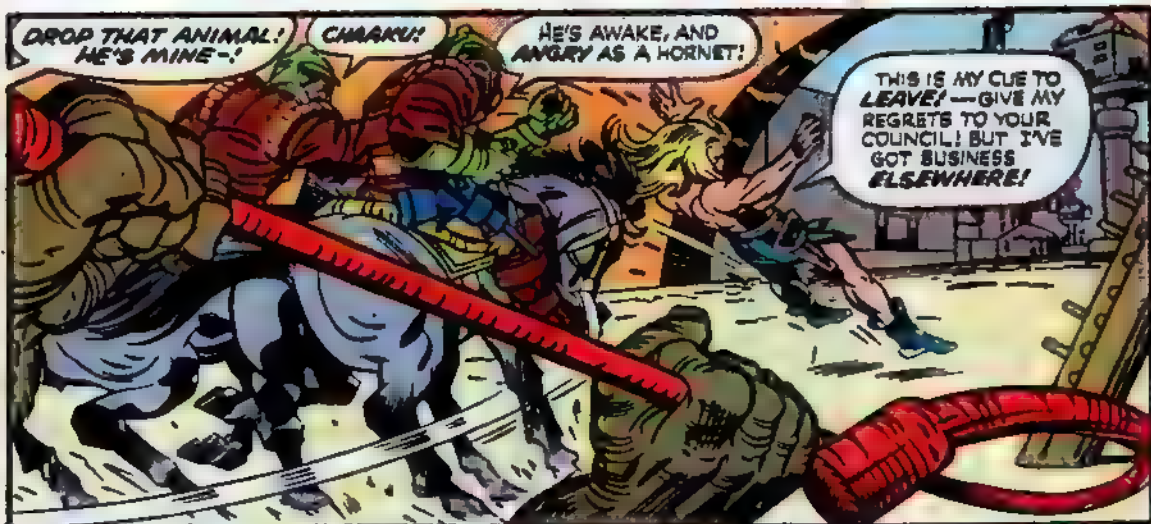
I TELL YOU I'M **NOT**
FROM THE HERD THAT
YOU ROUNDED UP! I
FLEW HERE!...
BY BALLOON!...
WITH **FRIENDS!**



SO YOU'VE GOT FRIENDS,
EH?...WITH **BLASTERS**.
NO DOUBT! OUR
GOVERNING
COUNCIL MUST
HEAR YOUR
STORY.

LET'S GO! THEY
MAY DECIDE TO SEND
A "MOP-UP" SQUAD
TO CLEAN UP YOUR
FRIENDS!

HEY!

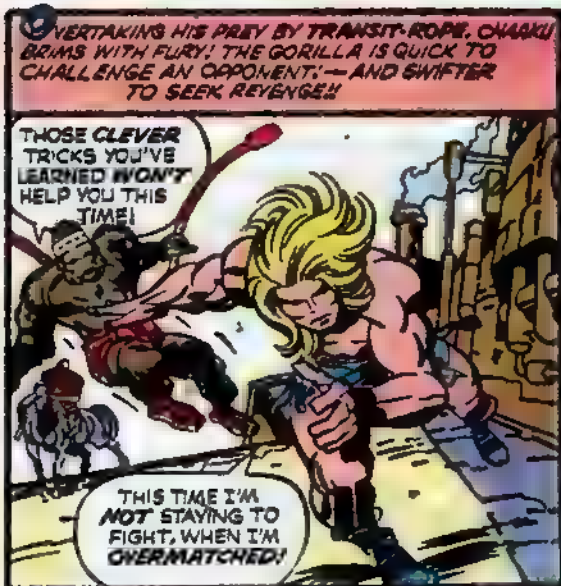


DROP THAT ANIMAL!
HE'S MINE--!

CHAAKU!

HE'S AWAKE, AND
ANGRY AS A HORNET!

THIS IS MY CUE TO
LEAVE!...GIVE MY
REGRETS TO YOUR
COUNCIL! BUT I'VE
GOT BUSINESS
ELSEWHERE!



VERTAKING HIS PREY BY TRANSIT-ROPE, CHAAKU
BRIMS WITH FURY! THE GORILLA IS QUICK TO
CHALLENGE AN OPPONENT!...AND SWIFTER
TO SEEK REVENGE!!

THOSE CLEVER
TRICKS YOU'VE
LEARNED WON'T
HELP YOU THIS
TIME!

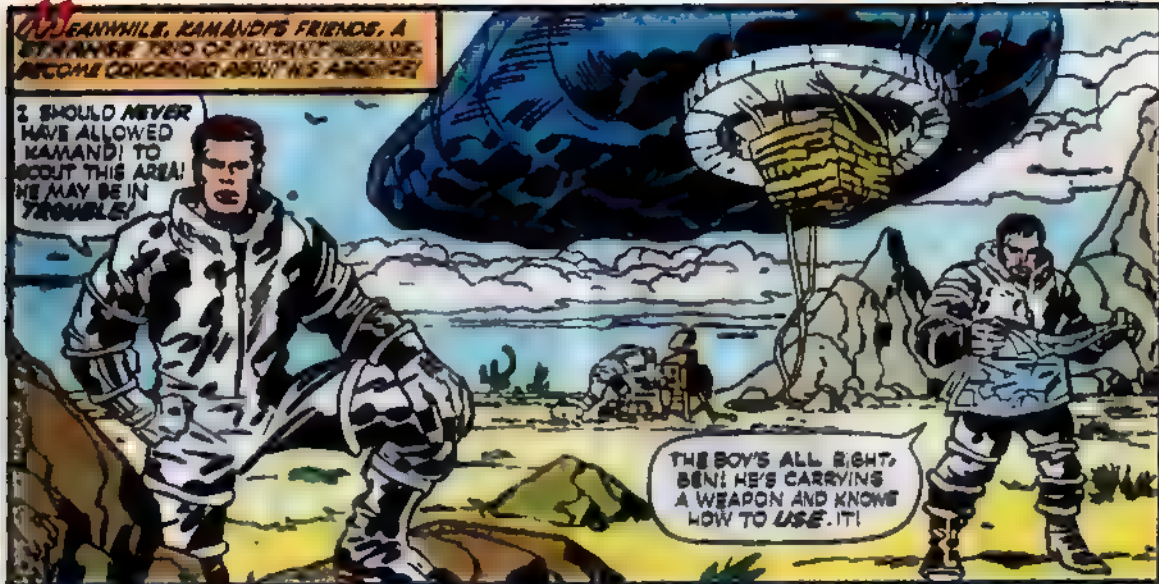
THIS TIME I'M
NOT STAYING TO
FIGHT, WHEN I'M
OVERMATCHED!



YOU WON'T
GET FAR!
YOU'RE
RUNNING
TOWARD THE
"DIGGINGS."
...AND WHAT
THEY HIDE WILL
EVEN BE LESS
TO YOUR
LIKING!

MEANWHILE, KAMANDI'S FRIENDS, A STRANGE TRIO OF MUTANT APES, BECOME CONCERNED ABOUT HIS ABSENCE.

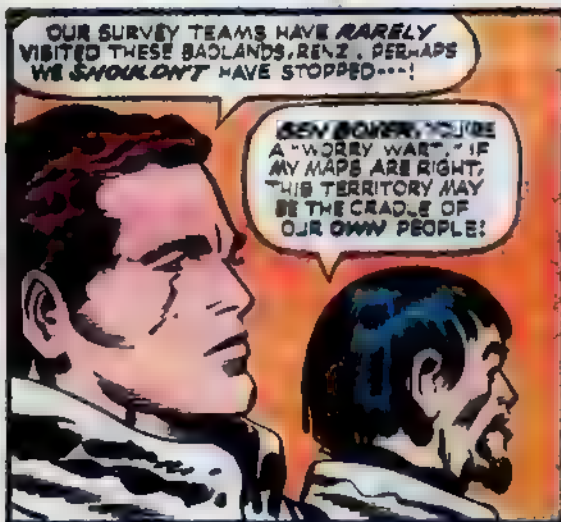
2. SHOULD NEVER HAVE ALLOWED KAMANDI TO SCOUT THIS AREA! HE MAY BE IN TROUBLE!



THE BOY'S ALL RIGHT, BEN! HE'S CARRYING A WEAPON AND KNOWS HOW TO USE IT!

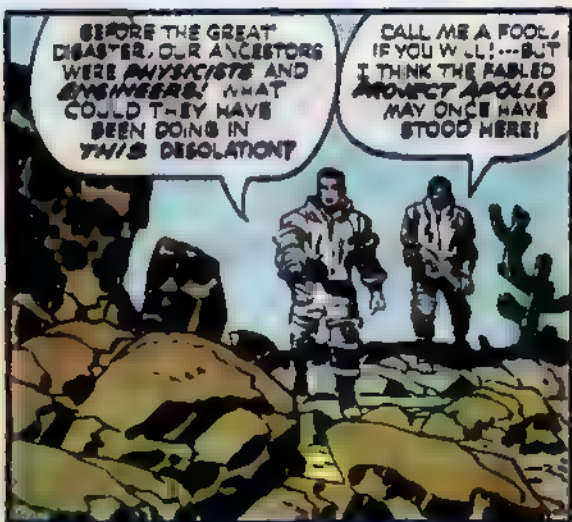
OUR SURVEY TEAMS HAVE RARELY VISITED THESE BADLANDS, RENZ. PERHAPS WE SHOULDN'T HAVE STOPPED---

BEN BOWEN, YOU'RE A "WORRY WART." IF MY MAPS ARE RIGHT, THIS TERRITORY MAY BE THE CRADLE OF OUR OWN PEOPLE!



BEFORE THE GREAT DISASTER, OUR ANCESTORS WERE PHYSICISTS AND ENGINEERS. WHAT COULD THEY HAVE BEEN DOING IN THIS DESOLATION?

CALL ME A FOOL, IF YOU WILL, BUT I THINK THE FABLED PROJECT APOLLO MAY ONCE HAVE STOOD HERE!

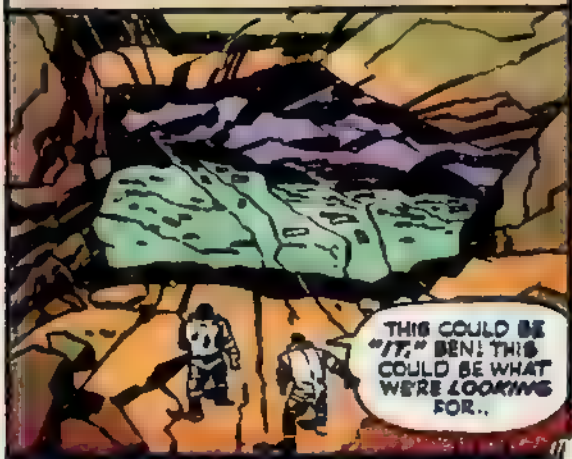


THESE HOOFPRIINTS SAY HORSES HAVE BEEN HERE... AND RIDERS... I'M WORRIED ABOUT KAMANDI---

BEN--! LOOK--!



THERE HAD EVIDENTLY BEEN A DAY WHEN THE WORLD SHOOK!---AND CRACKED OPEN!---AND BURIED WHAT WAS ON THE SURFACE UNDER TONS OF ROCK! BEN AND RENZ! FACE WHAT COULD BE THE ANSWERS TO A MAMMOTH TOMB!---



THIS COULD BE "IT," BEN! THIS COULD BE WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR..

THIS COULD BE
THE HOME OF THE
"MOONSHIPS"...OR
EVEN THE RETURNING
SPACE SHUTTLES!

THINK OF WHERE THEY
WENT!...THE THINGS
THEY BROUGHT
BACK TO
EARTH!

IN THAT BYGONE DAY OF HOLOCAUST, IN THAT HOUR
OF MASS DEATH, THERE HAD ALSO BEEN THE BEGIN-
NING OF LIFE AND GROWTH! AND IT SURVIVED IN THIS
ENVIRONMENT...BECAUSE IT WAS NOT OF THIS
WORLD!

ZZZZRRRR

IT WAS
STILL
ALIVE—
AND
DANGER-
OUS!!

RENZI!
LOOK
OUT!

ZZZZRRRR!

WHAT
IN THE
NAME
OF...!

SSKKITZZ!

THE THING STRIKES
WITH LETHAL ELECTRICAL
FORCE! BUT...!

ARE YOU OKAY, RENZI?
I THOUGHT THAT THING
WOULD FRY YOU!!

THIS
ANCIENT
SPACE
SUIT...!

I-I THINK
IT SAVED
MY LIFE...!

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Wanted, Yo-Yo.



The Lion Sleeps Tonight, It's Too Late,
One Monkey Don't Stop No Show, Without You, Love the One
You're With, Sweet City Woman, An Old Fashioned Love Song
Absolutely Right

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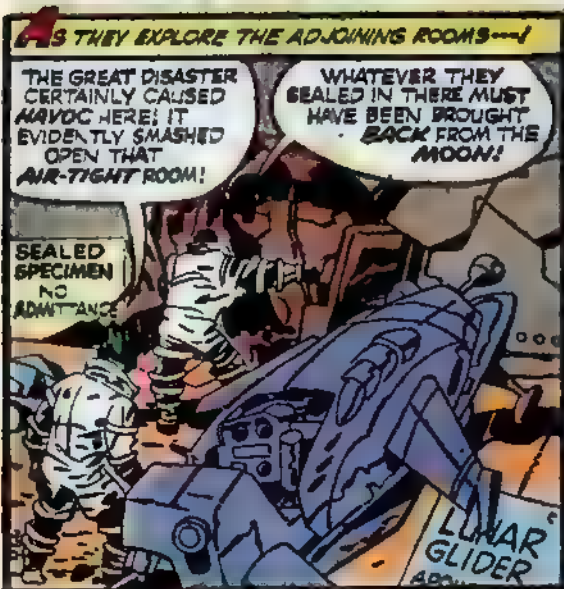
**I enclose \$2.00 for each album checked.
If I buy 2, I get ONE FREE!**

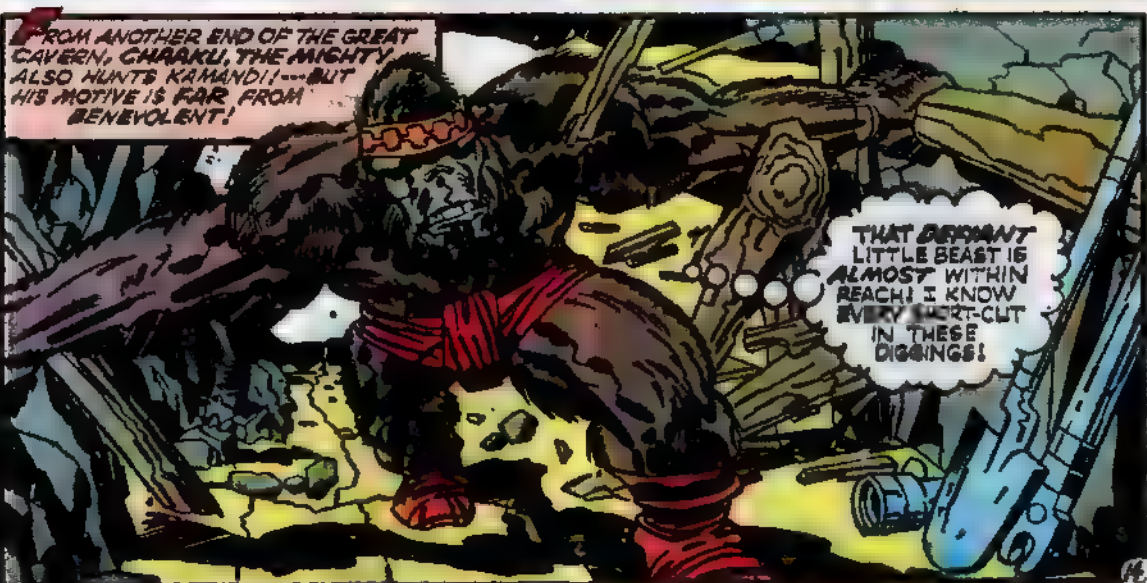
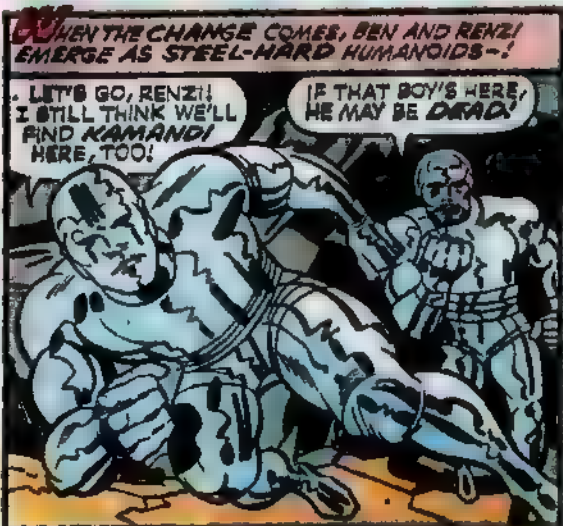
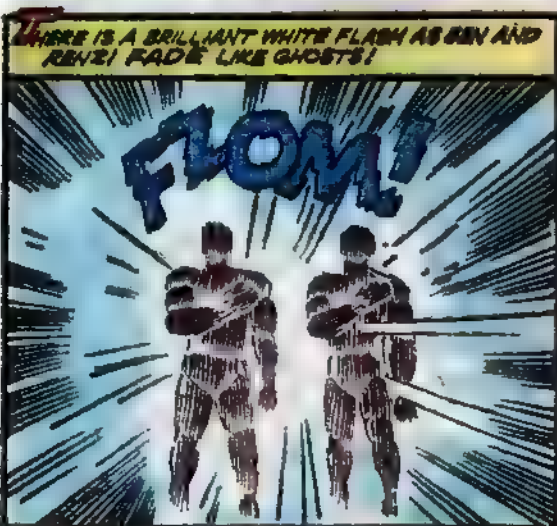
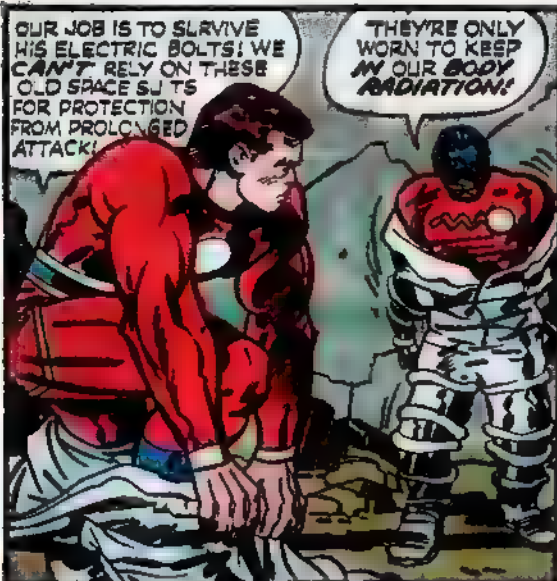
.....☐ Superstar☐ Cash☐ '71 Rock☐ Bubble Gum

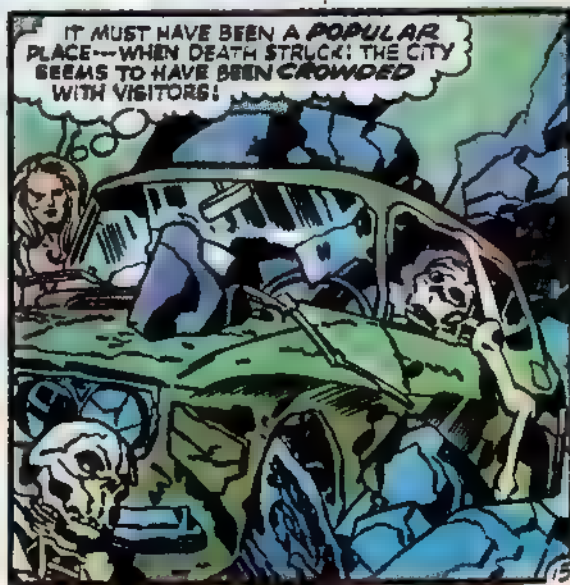
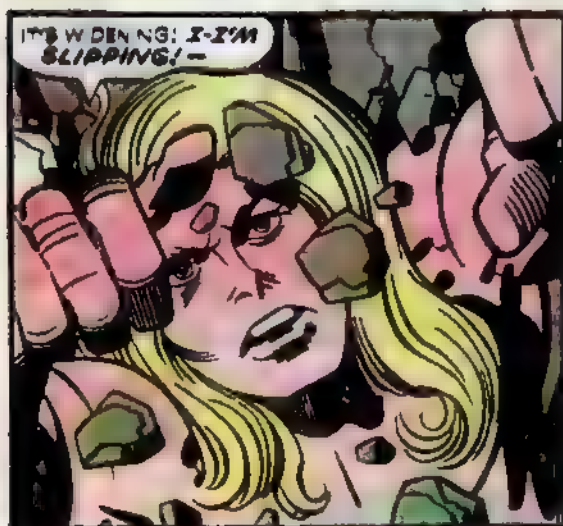
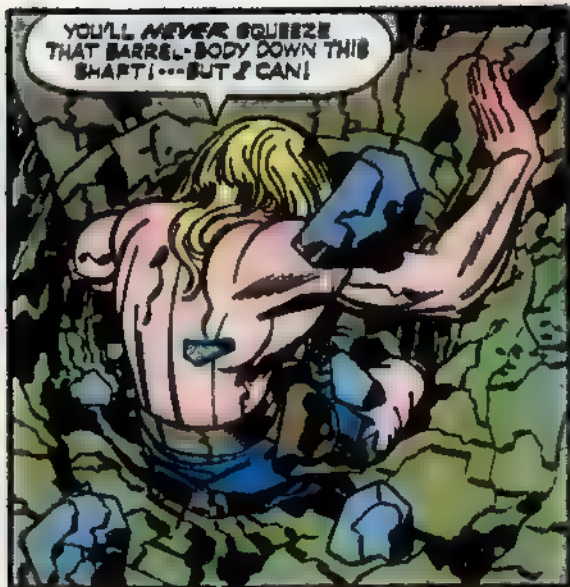
Name.....
Address.....
City..... State..... Zip.....

BEN AND RENZI, THEN, TAKE OFF IN PURSUIT OF THE ALIEN CREATURE! SOMEHOW, THEY FEEL THAT IT IS LINKED WITH THE LOST SPACE PROJECT OF ANTIQUITY! IN THAT DARK, STONY CAVERN THEY LISTEN FOR THE SOUND OF ITS PROGRESS---AND EAGERLY FOLLOW ITS TRAIL---IN SEARCH OF THEIR OWN ORIGINS! BUT THOSE WHO SEARCH AND FIND MAY LOSE THEIR PRIZE IN A FINAL---

CHAPTER THREE "ENCOUNTER WITH DEATH!"



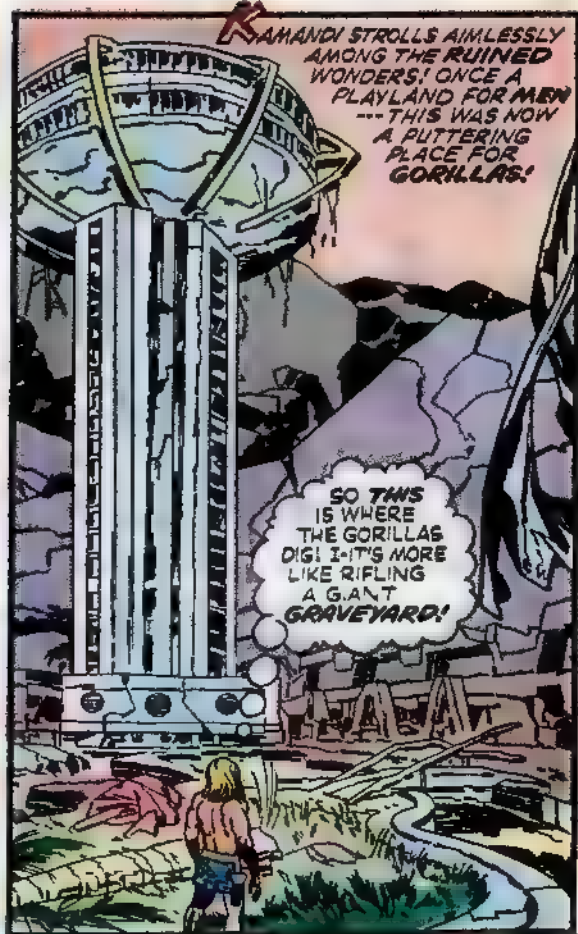




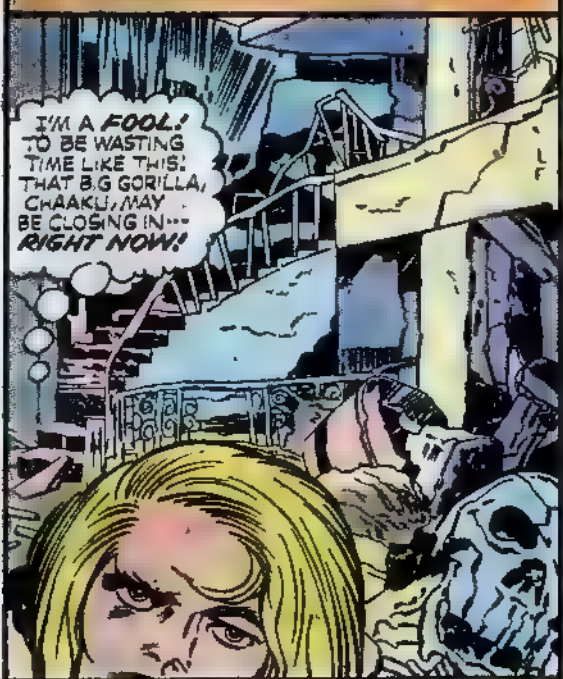
HOW LONG HAS ALL THAT SPREADS BEFORE KAMANDI'S EYES LAIN IN SILENCE? WHEN DID THE GREAT DISASTER DESCEND? ---AND PUT A SUDDEN END TO GREED AND GAITY?



KAMANDI STROLLS AIMLESSLY AMONG THE RUINED WONDERS! ONCE A PLAYLAND FOR MEN ---THIS WAS NOW A PUTTERING PLACE FOR GORILLAS!



KAMANDI HAS MOMENTARILY FORGOTTEN ALL THOUGHT OF DANGER! THEN HE REMEMBERS! THE IMAGE OF CHAAKU SUDDENLY LOOMS LARGE AND THREATENING IN HIS MIND'S EYE!



MAKING A HASTY DEPARTURE FROM THE RUINS, KAMANDI SOON REACHES THE OUTLYING ROCKY TERRAIN!



CONTINUED ON 2 OF PAGE FOLLOWING

The Adventures of CORGI Boy



It was a night I have to go about 20 minutes on my way home to go to bed. On the way I had a burst of my work memory. I felt my hand on my leg in my hand.

I had just read from the *Chicago Tribune* where I had just in my hand.

There were a few more in my hand.

There were a few more in my hand.



...the 1970s. The 1970s were the years when the first wave of feminism was at its peak. The 1970s were the years when the first wave of feminism was at its peak. The 1970s were the years when the first wave of feminism was at its peak.



I'm not a very good person, but I'm not a very bad person either. I'm just a person who is trying to do the best I can. I'm not perfect, but I'm not a failure either. I'm just a person who is trying to do the best I can.



CONGRATULATIONS! If you've earned your master's, thank your advertising for any other care free hours (TWC's advertising jobs are no exception) and



Q. 12170



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...the ...
...the ...
...the ...
...the ...



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Wagon Gap #172 " 1.50
Moose Butte. #8 \$5.00

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I A MOE RAY
.60 \$ 69



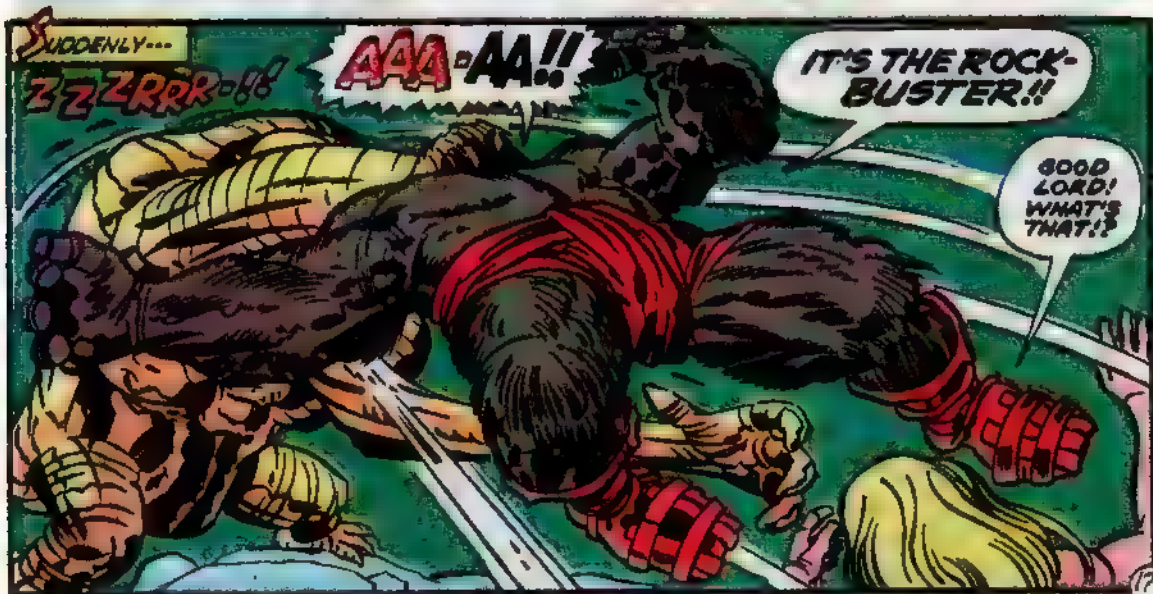
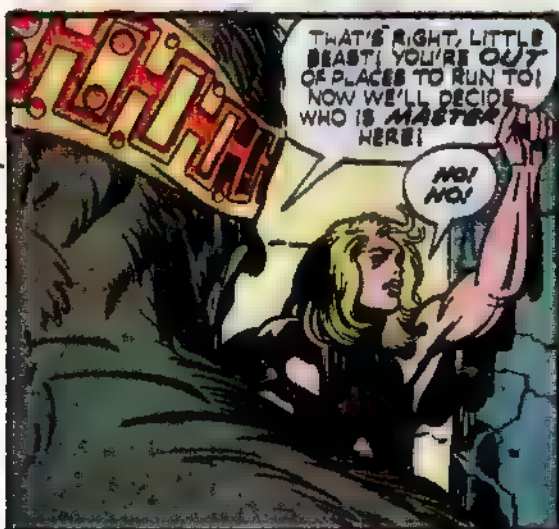
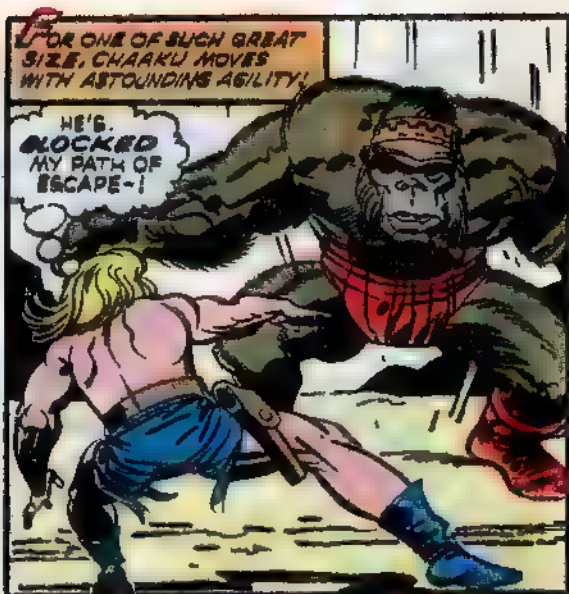
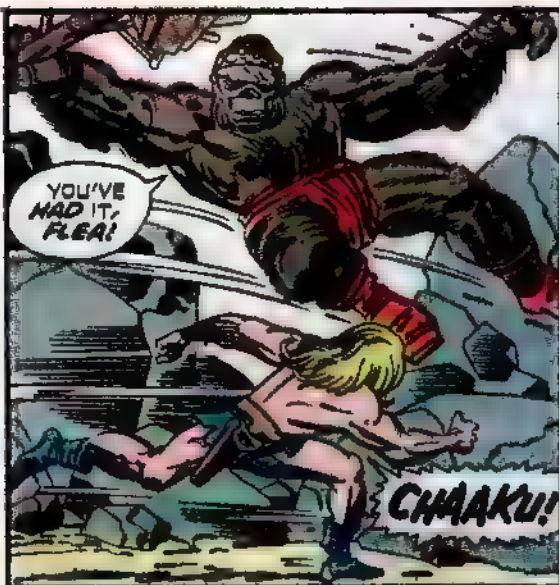
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1870

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1870



ALTHOUGH CHAAKU REVEALS A CERTAIN FEAR OF THE ALIEN THING, HE NEVERTHELESS LIVES UP TO HIS ANCESTRAL INSTINCTS! HE ATTACKS!



USAI! YOU MUST BE MADE OF ROCK! BUT---CHAAKU WILL BREAK YOU! I'M NOT ONE OF THE "NAMEY-PAMBYS" YOU'VE SCARED DOWN HERE!



THEY SAY YOU THROW LIGHTNING BOLTS AROUND! ---AND YOU'VE MADE MUSH OUT OF OUR TOUGHEST BRAWLER!

BUT--- YOU HAVEN'T MET CHAAKU! I'VE BEATEN THEM ALL!



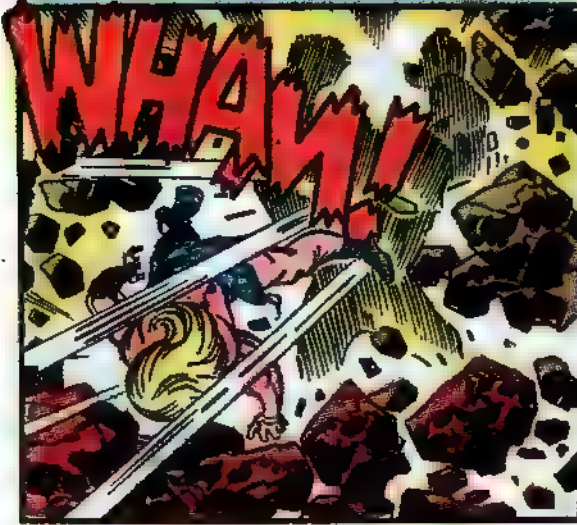
HAHAHAHAH!! NOW YOU'VE FELT THE MIGHT OF CHAAKU! NOW YOU KNOW WHO'S KING OF THE HILL!



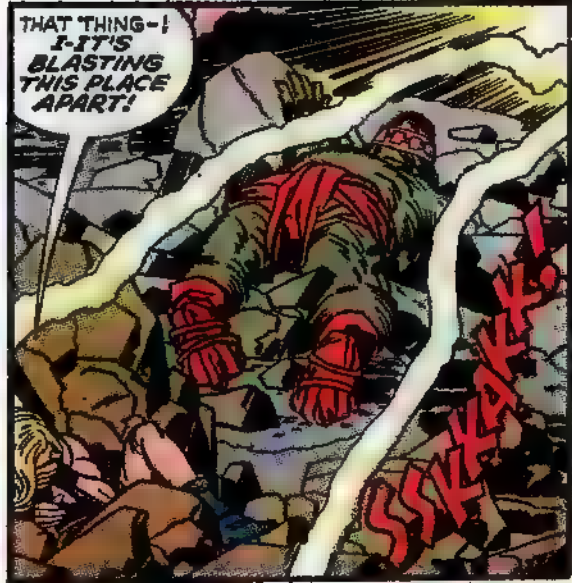
IN PRIDE AND ANGER, THERE ARE FEW SPECIES WHO MATCH THE GORILLA! KAMANDI CAUTIOUSLY TRIES TO SLIP PAST CHAAKU! BUT---

STAY PUT, YOU LITTLE WEASEL!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE SURROUNDING ROCK
EXPLODES WITH A GREAT ROAR!!

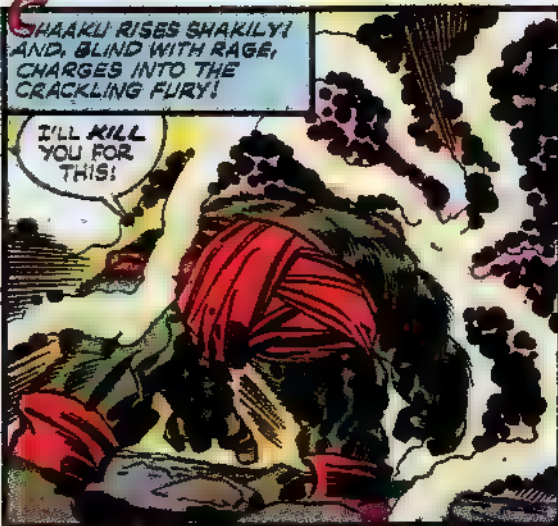


THAT THING-!
I-IT'S
BLASTING
THIS PLACE
APART!

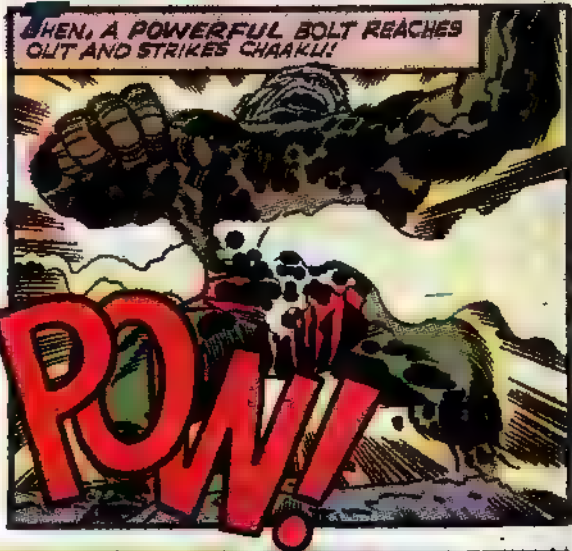


CHAAKU RISES SHAKILY!
AND, BLIND WITH RAGE,
CHARGES INTO THE
CRACKLING FURY!

I'LL KILL
YOU FOR
THIS!



THEN, A POWERFUL BOLT REACHES
OUT AND STRIKES CHAAKU!



THE MIGHTY SIMIAN STAGGERS AND
FALLS---MORTALLY WOUNDED---
BUT THE ATTACK GOES ON!--GROWS
IN FURY!!!

SSSKAPOW!!



WHEN, AS KAMANDI STEELS HIMSELF FOR A SIMILAR DEATH...

KAMANDI! THIS WAY!

BEN!

DON'T TALK, BOY! JUST TAKE COVER!

THE ARRIVAL OF HIS FRIENDS SPURS A RENEWED OUTBURST OF ELECTRICAL FORCE! BUT BEN BOXER AND RENZI ARE NOW MORE THAN FLESH!...AND DIFFICULT TO DESTROY!

BLAMM!

GET SET TO RUSH HIM, RENZI!

RIGHT ON! THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THOSE LETHAL CHARGES IS TO KNOCK HIM COLD!

GET HIM! HE CAN'T BLAST AND FIGHT AT THE SAME TIME! TO GENERATE THE FORCE, HE'S GOT TO CONCENTRATE ON IT!

IT'LL TAKE ALL WE'VE GOT--TO PUT HIM OUT! HIS HIDE IS TOUGHER THAN OURS!

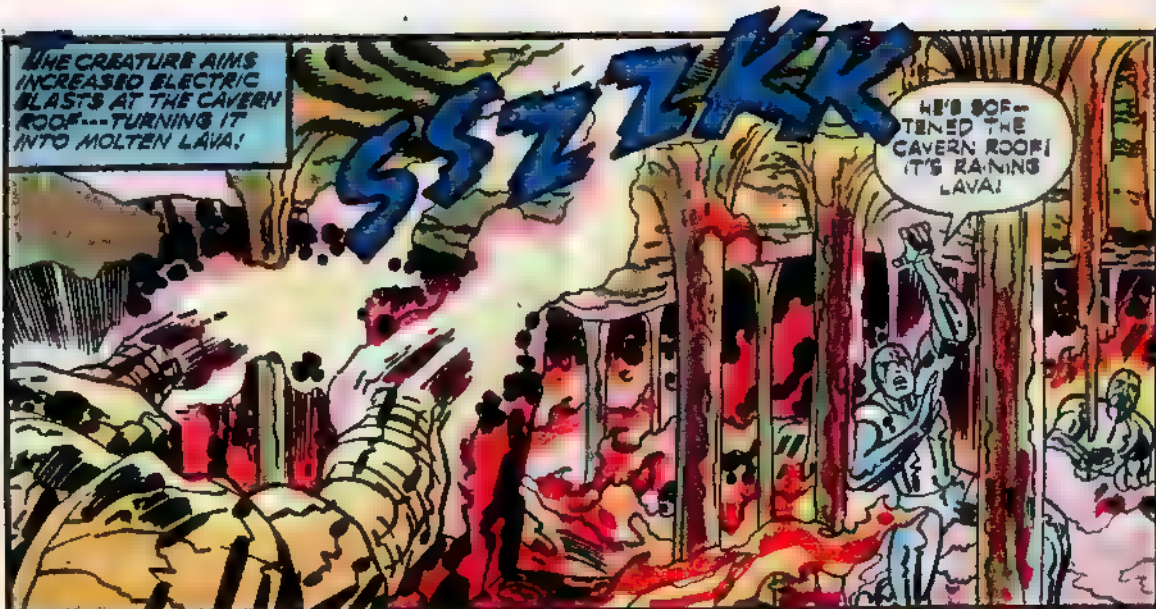
THE CREATURE'S GRIP IS INDESCRIBABLY POWERFUL! IT BATTERS THE STEEL SKIN OF ITS OPPONENTS!

IT'S NOW OR NEVER, RENZI! WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIS WEAK SPOT AND HAMMER IT IN!

THE OPPORTUNITY NEVER COMES! BEN MISCALCULATES! THE THING CAN AND DOES GENERATE DESTRUCTION AS IT BATTLES!

WOWPF!

UGH-!



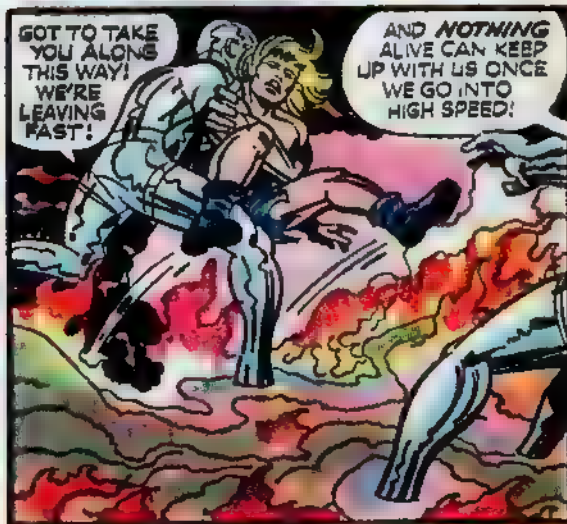
THE CREATURE AIMS INCREASED ELECTRIC BLASTS AT THE CAVERN ROOF---TURNING IT INTO MOLTEN LAVA!

HE'S SOFTENED THE CAVERN ROOF! IT'S RAINING LAVA!



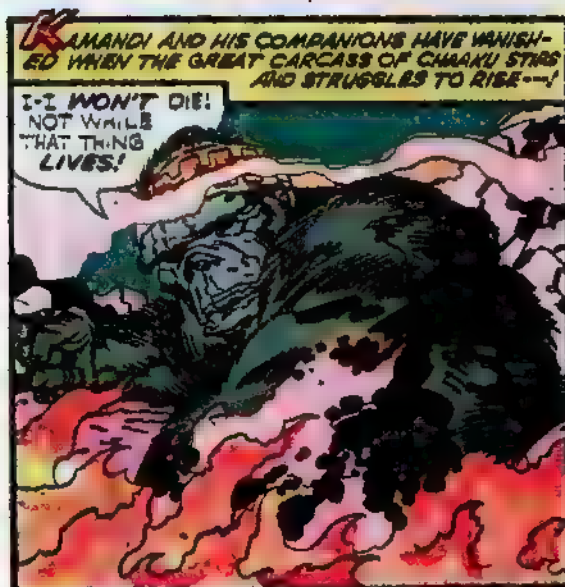
LUCKILY, IN THIS FORM, WE CAN SURVIVE IT!... BUT NOT FOR LONG!

IT COULD WEAKEN THE CAVERN WALLS! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! RAMANDI! STAND BY!



GOT TO TAKE YOU ALONG THIS WAY! WE'RE LEAVING FAST!

AND NOTHING ALIVE CAN KEEP UP WITH US ONCE WE GO INTO HIGH SPEED!



RAMANDI AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE VANISHED WHEN THE GREAT CARCASS OF CHAAKU STIRS AND STRUGGLES TO RISE---

I-I WON'T DIE! NOT WHILE THAT THING LIVES!



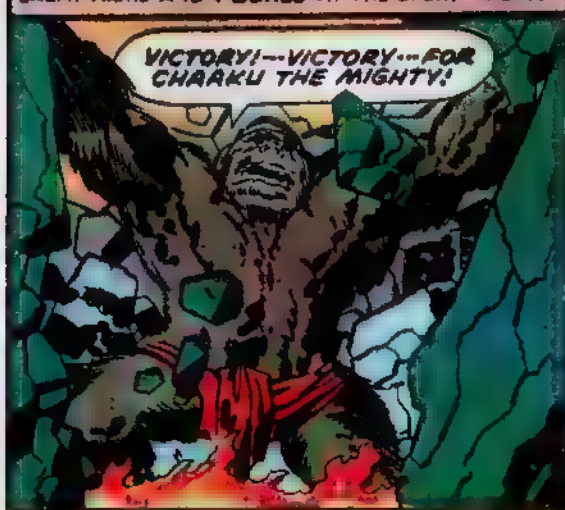
CHAAKU KNOWS HIS WOUND IS FATAL, BUT INSIDE HIM, THE TIMELESS FURY OF THE SIMIAN REFUSES TO FADE!! "DESTROY THE ENEMY," IT URGES!--- AND CHAAKU ANSWERS!

DESTROY THE ENEMY!

WHEN THE "ROCK-BUSTER" TURNS UPON HIM! AND CHAAKU ROARS OUT HIS CHALLENGE... EVEN AS HE IS RAKED MERCILESSLY WITH "KILLER" BOLTS!



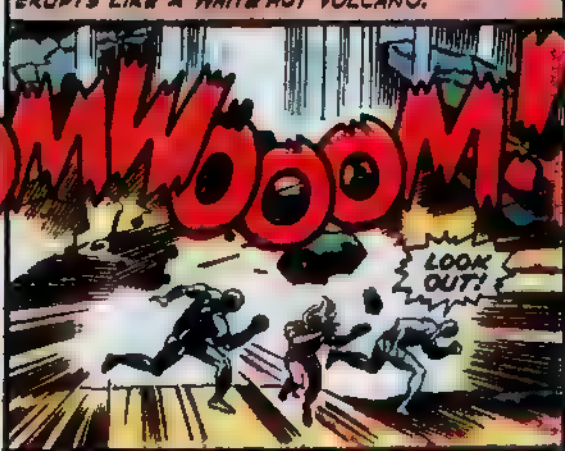
CHAAKU SINKS TO HIS KNEES! LIFE BARELY LINGERS IN HIS SEARED BODY! HE THROWS OUT HIS GREAT ARMS AND PUSHES AT THE STONY WALLS!



WITH A LAST POWERFUL BURST OF STRENGTH, CHAAKU BRINGS DOWN TONS OF ROCK UPON HIMSELF AND THE CREATURE!



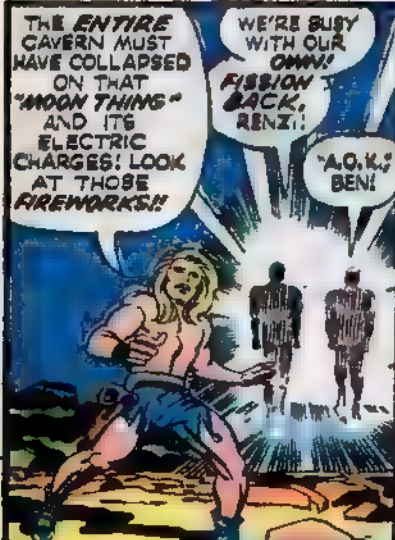
MEANWHILE, AS KAMANDI AND HIS FRIENDS REACH THE CAVERN'S MOUTH, THE GIANT MOUND ERUPTS LIKE A WHITE HOT VOLCANO!



THE ENTIRE CAVERN MUST HAVE COLLAPSED ON THAT "MOON THING" AND ITS ELECTRIC CHARGES! LOOK AT THOSE FIREWORKS!

WE'RE BUSY WITH OUR OWN! FISSION I BACK, BENZI!

A.O.K., BEN!



ALL THAT WAS IN THERE IS BURIED FOREVER. KAMANDI! BUT OUR DESTINIES GO ON!

POOR CHAAKU! HE BULLIED AND FRIGHTENED ME! BUT HE NEVER DID HARM ME! I-I WAS A TOY HE WANTED TO OWN!



COMPLETE! NEXT MONTH!

GREAT CAESAR'S TIGER LEGIONS COLLIDE WITH THE GOTHIC GORILLAS, WITH DEAD LAS VEGAS AS THE BATTLEFIELD! KAMANDI WILL BE THERE! YOU BE THERE! IN THE

DEVIL'S ARENA!

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT JAN. 16TH

TIME CAPSULE X-368

Opened and read by JACK KIRBY

Jack,

I've just finished reading the first installment of *Kamandi* and at the moment many thoughts course through the corridors of my mind. I can't help but compare certain of your concepts with those utilized in the Planet of the Apes series of motion pictures: The idea of animal-men, wild humans, Kamandi being caged, the nuclear warhead being idolized, even the depiction of a ruined Statue of Liberty. My first impression was that one might expect such parallelism throughout the series.

Then, I finished the story and turned to the map of the "New World". I knew then that no stereotype plotting would be a part of *Kamandi's* future. The map gives the reader a glimpse of what is in store... an epic that may achieve grand scale. Areas of extreme interest to this writer in particular are as follows: The Strange Fire Area, The Dominion of the Devils, Mystery Crater Country, The Bay of Bones, and the Mountainous New Continent. The mere titles given these regions of questionable activity are enough to whet the appetite of Kirby followers everywhere.

The readership at large now need only settle back and wait—and question—and ponder that which is to come. The five questions of the journalist are brought to the front here in that we have a *Who* (*Kamandi*), an approximate *When* (the distant Future), the *Where* of it all is to be seen on the map, but the *What* and *Why* remain to be revealed. I'll not drag this note out any further, but conclude by saying that fans everywhere can look forward to another good one.

Curtis K. Sutherly, Fredericksburg, Pa.

I thank you for your analysis and fine perception, Curtis. But please don't drag your notes out any further. J.K.

Dear Jack,

"About KAMANDI no.1." First of all, the art was great, especially pages 2 & 3. The coloring was great. And I also like using chapters. Now, the bad part. The story was rotten. It reminded me of *The Planet of the Apes*. Actually, more like *Beneath the Planet of the Apes*, which I did not like at all. And if the whole series is going to be like *Beneath the Planet of the Apes*, I don't think it will make it. Sorry. So, in closing, I suggest you change your story a little bit and it will be perfect. What else can I say? Keep up

the good work?

Rick Stark, Burbank, Calif.

I'll try my best, Rick. I'll try my best! J.K.

Dear Jack,

This letter is about KAMANDI, THE LAST BOY ON EARTH. It sounds like it's going to be a block-buster, and with you doing it, it's going to be even better.

The idea of a super-civilization taking over Earth is a brilliant masterpiece, though not entirely original.

I read a lot of science fiction and, about five months before *Kamandi* was introduced, I had an idea I thought would make a great book. It would take place in the far future where a super-race has taken over Earth, and mankind is forced to fight for its life. It might have some crazy name like "The Inferior Race", or "The One Sided War."

I'm not claiming the idea is mine, or asking anything for it. I'm just glad Jack Kirby's drawing it. I wish you all the luck in the world.

Bill Burkitt, Chamblee, Georgia

I don't know exactly what you wrote there, Bill. But I get the impression that you've got an active, stimulated mind which dotes on good, imaginative situations. I feel that if you stay with "Kamandi" you'll find yourself in the kind of world in which you like to wander. J.K.

Folks,

The first lettercol of a new book usually is full of fan exclamations of "greatest book ever" which always seems rather premature at best and ludicrous at most times. But with *Kamandi* I'll be not quite as cautious and say it is one of the most exciting comics in a long while with a rather basic yet seldom used idea. It's more easily understood and identified with, than Kirby's fourth world series (rip) and yet the possibilities are endlessly interesting. As for shortfalls, I'll mention the two most obvious; First, it might be attacked as a Planet of the Apes swipe. But I'm not familiar enough or fan enough of that series to attack Kirby for any similarities. I'm quite sure Jack'll surpass anything ever done by them. Number Two is something that will probably be answered in forthcoming issues. But where did the tigers and leopards come from? Zoos? Maybe from

Jungle Habitat in West Milford, N.J. (as advertised in D.C.?) It seems rather illogical that they be as dominant as was shown in #1. If only on a numbers basis, i.e. there are a lot more dogs around than tigers. But I assume that time will tell. In closing, the art was great. I'd been slowly getting annoyed at Mike Royer's inking. But Mike really outdid himself this time. His style worked well on the animal faces. Good luck.

D. St. Eva, N.J.

Friend, I'll take the liberty of racking up your statement as a plus for Kamandi. Somehow, I feel that you're interested enough to hang around for further developments. At any rate, a fellow who asks questions is someone who cares. Where did the leopards and tigers come from? You'll get an answer. It should make a terrific story. J.K.

Dear Jack,

I can think of only one word to describe Kamandi #1—"FANTABULOUS!!!" At first, when I heard of Kamandi I thought it would be a carbon copy of a defunct opposition title. But verily it was not. Kamandi #1 was much better than "Mighty-What's-His Name." Ah, Mister Kirby, I must commend you on your finest of efforts. Surely, Kamandi shall be (and is) the best book ever to wear the Kirby name! Good luck with your new titles, and I hope Kamandi lives up to my expectations. (Though I have no doubt it will.)

Eddie Fairbank, Parma, Ohio

Thanks a ton, Eddie. J.K.

Dear Mister Kirby,

Sir, you have really got something there! Kamandi is good, very good. It has the potential to be great if you're careful!

The first drawback you're going to face with science fiction nuts like me is an overwhelming similarity in your story to the Planet of the Apes series of pictures. Charlton Heston practically belonged on the cover, looking up at the Statue of Liberty, as if you didn't plan it that way.

Please understand, I'm not knocking Kamandi; as I said, you have got some great potential here. So, please don't blow it!!! Hurry up with the next issue.

John G. House, Phoenix, Arizona

John, what I've got here is a variation on a popular theme. I'm going to take it down my own road and see where it leads. I'm hoping that you'll come along as company, because I can use a lot of friends. I can also assure you of a surprise around each bend. And they tell me that's better than watching the

rocks go up and down at the corner garage. Stay with me, John. The view's great. J.K.

Dear Jack,

After reading the first issue of Kamandi, I knew that you had produced another masterpiece in writing and art. I was sorry to see the Forever People and the New Gods cancelled, but you softened me up quite a bit with your new array of titles, Kamandi included.

The basic premise of Kamandi seems to be a mixture of the Planet of the Apes theme (Statue of Liberty and all) and other such types. You have taken the best parts of all, the downfall of man to simple animal and the wide variety of animals evolving into intelligence, and created a well-put-together story.

However, I do see something else outside the plot of Kamandi. It seems that the human race, as we know it, was destroyed by a war between nations who could not get along. These countries had to show military might to become and stay the best there is. A similar thing seems to be happening to the "animal" people of the future Earth. The ever expanding Tiger empire seems to be fighting everyone in their path. Their weapons will steadily get better and more effective and possibly another "Doomsday" weapon may be made. Also, the animal people are patterned after humans by their show of greed, cruelty and their struggle for greatness. Kamandi's world is of the future and the trends of history might very well repeat themselves. Good luck in all your endeavors.

Scott Snyder, Orangeburg, N.Y.

Scott, you're evidently one of the many pessimistic "End of the world" rascals who can't get their minds off the "Bomb!" That's why, I think, you missed my point. Kamandi's world is a premise of hope. It stems from a "Natural" disaster, not an atomic war. Man has suffered a setback. But Kamandi is his symbol of redemption and recovery. What Kamandi is really saying is, "man is down, but not out!" We can come back strong if we have the will. It's as simple and as interesting as that. J.K.

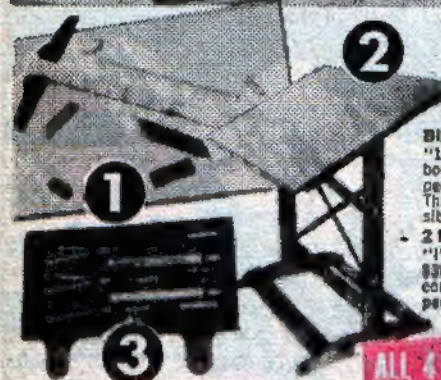
At this point, please, let me state that the initial response to Kamandi has been enthusiastic and, of course, gratifying to myself. Although I can't possibly put all your letters in print, I can assure the reader that his mail is studied and his thoughts accepted in whatever vein they run. I thank you for the brickbats as well as the words of encouragement. It's a terrific way of meeting you and knowing myself.

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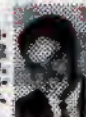
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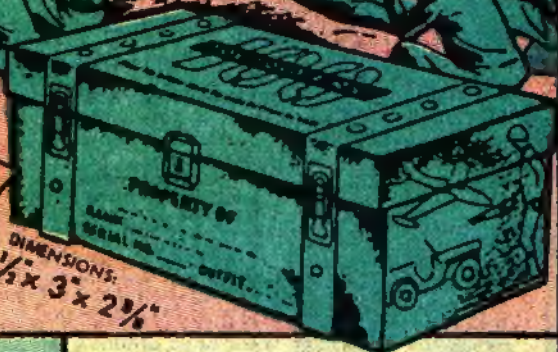
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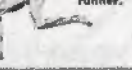
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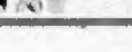
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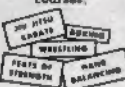
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